

For Immediate Release

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**LATINO LEGISLATIVE CAUCUS ENDORSES
NO ON RECALL, YES ON BUSTAMANTE CAMPAIGN**

*Latino Caucus vows to fight recall and support
Bustamante's candidacy for Governor.*

Sacramento, CA-The California Latino Legislative Caucus voted unanimously to support the No on Recall, Yes on Bustamante Campaign this afternoon.

"We feel this recall election is an abuse of our democracy. We are absolutely opposed to recalling Governor Davis," said Assembly Majority Floor Leader Marco A. Firebaugh (D-South Gate), Chair, Latino Caucus. "The seriousness of this unfortunate situation behooves Democrats to provide a viable alternative who can continue to fight for our working families. Lt. Governor Bustamante is the best qualified and provides the experience, tenure and leadership required to lead California through this difficult time."

"A recall is the last thing California needs. It is an act of desperation by Bush right wingers. We will fight it and we will oppose it," said Assembly Member Manny Diaz (D-San Jose), Northern CA Vice Chair, Latino Caucus."

"I resent California taxpayers being forced into paying nearly \$70 million for a special recall election. It's poor policy and undermines the wishes of eight million voters," said Assembly Member Jenny Oropeza (D-Long Beach), Southern CA Vice Chair, Latino Caucus. "Bustamante is a man of rock-solid integrity. He's also open to fresh ideas to solve our state's problems. Should the recall pass, we need an experienced, proven leader like Cruz Bustamante."

Since its inception in 1973 with five Democratic Assembly Members, the Caucus has experienced tremendous growth. The Latino Legislative Caucus' is steadfast in their agenda to keep California strong, competitive and moving forward.

The Caucus reached an all time high of 24 Democratic members in 2003, including nine Senators and fifteen Assembly Members. Latino Caucus Members hold key positions in both houses of the State Legislature with all nine senators either serving as chair of a standing committee or as part of the Senate Leadership team. The Members of the Caucus represent the diverse geographical regions throughout the State.

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